Upgradation of Kolkata airport

3653. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Kolkata International terminal is one of the worst in the world where there is hardly any toilet that does not stink, phones and air conditioning hardly works and shopping facilities are quite negligible;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when, its maintenance is likely to improve?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) At the international terminal of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata each toilet is maintained by an attendant and all the toilets are maintained in good condition. Adequate manned and unmanned public telephones are provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) and these telephones are checked daily by Airports Authority of India (AAI) officials and unserviceability, if any, is intimated to BSNL for immediate rectification. Airconditioning facility is functioning satisfactorily. Shopping facilities such as Duty Free Shops, State Government Emporium, Travellers Requisite Shops are available at the International Terminal Building. The international arrival terminal has recently been expanded and fully renovated. This renovated terminal was commissioned on September, 2000. There is also a plan to expand and renovate the International Departure Block. Airport development being an on-going process, efforts are made by AAI to continuously improve the standard of facilities and services.

Basic amenities at airports

3654. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some airports in the country do not have even the basic amenities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir. All airports and Civil Enclaves where scheduled flights are being operated have all the basic amenities.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Compensation to the families of deceased in Charkhi-Dadri air crash

†3655. SHRI B.P. SINGHAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any announcement was made by Government to pay Rupees five lakhs each to all the passengers killed in Charkhi-Dadri air crash of 12th November, 1996;

(b) whether this compensation amount has since been paid;

(c) the name of the persons found guilty during the course of investigation;

(d) whether this compensation is not payable by these two airlines since Boeing 747 of Saudi Arab and I.C. 76 aircraft of Kazhakistan were involved in this crash;

(e) if so, whether this amount has been recovered by Government from the Government of Saudi Arab and Kazhakistan; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.